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COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT

TOPIC Hungarian and Soviet Troop Units

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EVALUATION

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DATE OF CONTENT

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REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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Signal Training Battalion in Polgardi.

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1. In mid-January 1950, a signal training battalion, [REDACTED] was quartered in the new barracks installation on the northern edge of Polgardi (P 48/E 08), on the west side of the road to Szekesfehervar (Q 48/2 00). The installation consisted of a two-story headquarters building, a large three-story barracks building, a low kitchen and mess building with recreation room, an officers' mess, 2 large garages, and several small subsidiary buildings. [REDACTED]
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- [REDACTED] in 1950, construction work was done in the barracks area, where allegedly armored and artillery units were scheduled to be quartered. [REDACTED]
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- [REDACTED] the signal training battalion was transferred to Szekesfehervar in January 1951.

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2. The unit superior to the battalion was unknown. [REDACTED] Th[REDACTED] battalion was organized into battalion headquarters, a light and a heavy telephone company, a switchboard company, a line construction company, and a radio company. It totaled about 20 officers, about 15 NCOs, and 400 fns. The heavy telephone company [REDACTED] was organized into a headquarters and 2 platoons, each consisting of 3 squads averaging 10 or 11 men. Soldiers of this company were armed with model M-48 7.62-mm rifles while squad leaders carried submachine guns with drum magazines. Signal troops wore dark-blue service color and lightning insignia.
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3. Officers of the battalion included Major Raffay (fnu), commanding officer, who was formerly a worker of the Lang Engine Factory; Junior Lieutenant Szoeke (fnu), political officer; Captain Zsanady (fnu), paymaster; and Junior Lieutenant Miklos Toldi, commanding officer of the heavy telephone company, and ex-NCO.

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4. The battalion was equipped with an undetermined number of Raba trucks and about 30 Soviet Gats jeeps.
5. The battalion was a training unit. Upon completion of basic training in late December and a subsequent special signal-communications training of 2 or 3 weeks, recruits were assigned to various signal units. On 20 January 1950, most of the recruits were transferred to the signal regiment in Budapest, with only the battalion cadre remaining in Polgardi.

Signal Regiment in the Petoefi Barracks in Budapest.

6. The signal regiment, with which source served from mid-January to mid-September 1950, had postal No 9729 or 9129 and was quartered in the Petoefi Barracks, formerly Karoly Kiraly Barracks, on Budacsor Street. \* Its subordination and overt designation were unknown. It had the following organization:

a. Regimental headquarters. The officers of the headquarters were Colonel Dr. Emil Gurzoi, commanding officer, [redacted] Major [redacted] 25X1 Szepesdy (fmu), chief of staff, [redacted] 25X1 Captain Batori (fmu), adjutant, [redacted] Junior Lieutenant [redacted] 25X1 Oettvees (fmu), D-officer, [redacted] Lieutenant Spitzer (fmu), personnel officer, [redacted] Major Zsanady (fmu), supply [redacted] 25X1 officer, who served formerly with the battalion in Polgardi; and Major [redacted] 25X1 Dr. Dembinszky (fmu), regimental physician.

b. Headquarters battalion. It comprised all drivers, mechanics, medical personnel, orderlies, and clerks.

c. Radio battalion. No details available.

d. Telephone battalion. [redacted] was 25X1 commanded by Captain Morizo (sic), [redacted] Other officers 25X1 of the battalion headquarters were Bela Varkonyi, political officer; 25X1 Junior Lieutenant Moltan Marko, adjutant, [redacted] and 25X1 Junior Lieutenant Rehak (fmu), [redacted]. The battalion was organized into a headquarters, a light and a heavy telephone company, and a line construction company. The light telephone company [redacted] was 25X1 commanded by Senior Lieutenant Garanvoelgyi, [redacted] It 25X1 was organized into a headquarters and 2 platoons each consisting of 4 25X1 squads with 6 men each. Each platoon was equipped with 10 reels, each 25X1 containing 1 km of 4-mm wire; 4 model M-41 telephones; and 1 truck for the transportation of material. The heavy telephone company [redacted]

[redacted] was commanded by Senior Lieutenant Juhasz (fmu), [redacted] 25X1 It was organized into a headquarters and 2 platoons, each consisting of 3 squads with 6 men each. Each platoon was equipped with 40 reels, each containing 250 meters of 1-cm 4-conductor steel wire with black rubber insulation; 4 model M-41 telephones; and 3 wheelbarrows for the transportation of the reels. The line construction company [redacted] was commanded by Lieutenant Istvan Kovacs [redacted] and had 60 to 70 men. It constructed permanent overhead lines.

e. EM school, where 6-month courses were held.

f. A special detail, the official designation of which was unknown. The detail comprised switchboard teams of 3 men each, amplifier installations, survey team, and messengers.

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7. The regiment was armed with model M-48 x 7.62-mm rifles and submachine guns with drum magazines. It was equipped with about 20 x 3-ton Reba trucks, about 40 Csepel trucks, 40 to 50 Soviet Gats jeeps and about 30 Hungarian radio trucks. Motor vehicle numbers could not be identified.
8. In early February 1950, the regiment held an exercise of 2 weeks near Kecskemét (Q 43/I 65), practicing exclusively line construction by day and by night. The telephone battalion emphasized training in establishing an axis of signal communication. \*\* In August 1950, the bulk of the regiment participated in the fall maneuvers of the Hungarian Army in the Kisböröfehelyhaza (Y 7/0 03) area.
- 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 In mid-September 1950, the personnel of the regiment were politically screened, and most of them were selected for NCO or officers' training. About 10 percent of the soldiers were reassigned to various signal units because of their political unreliability.
9. In May 1950, an instruction course for field-grade officers and an instruction course for signal officers were held in the Petoefi Barracks. An AAA signal school was also located there at that time. In and after July 1950, female radio and switchboard operators were trained in courses of 3, 6 and 12 months in the barracks.

- 25X1 10. [redacted] about 400 troops [redacted] wore dark-blue (indigo-blue) service color and lightning insignia. Moving to Ft Sashegy or the Kelenfeld Meadows, the units had radio sets and wire reels on wheelbarrows with them. The barracks installation also quartered units of women who wore khaki uniforms, Soviet garrison caps, and laced boots.
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Independent Signal Battalion in the New Barracks Installation on Budaörsi Street.

11. [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1  
It was the first unit to be quartered in the new barracks installation which as yet had no designation. \*\* Clerks of the battalion said that the unit was allegedly assigned to the High Command of AAA Troops which was located in the same barracks installation. In early 1951 [redacted] 25X1 the independent signal battalion was to move to the Dozsa György Barracks, whereas a searchlight unit was to move to the new barracks installation. The transfer had not occurred by 18 February 1951.

12. The battalion was organized into a headquarters, and EM school, a radio company, and a telephone company. Officers of the battalion headquarters included Senior Lieutenant Bela Juhesz, commanding officer, who formerly was assigned to the signal regiment in the Petoefi Barracks; Junior Lieutenant Zoltan Marko, adjutant, who was formerly assigned to the signal regiment; Lieutenant Ferenc Posa, political officer, a postwar officer; Lieutenant Istvan Kovacs, chief of staff, who was formerly assigned to the signal regiment; Junior Lieutenant Bela Cintula, supply officer; Junior Lieutenant Leodi (fmu), motor transport officer; and Senior Lieutenant Bueki (fmu), personnel officer, a postwar officer. The EM school, postal No 9563/a, was commanded by Senior Lieutenant Mihaly Gyöere who was about 50 years of age, and had about 160 men who were organized into 4 radio platoons and 1 light telephone platoon. The school trained, in 6-month courses, soldiers of various AM units who wore white-bordered red epaulets. The radio company [redacted] was commanded by Lieutenant János (fmu), and numbered 60 men. The telephone company [redacted] was commanded by Junior Lieutenant Lazar Naity, who graduated from the signal officers' school in August 1950, and numbered about 60 men. It was
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organized into a headquarters, a light and a heavy telephone platoon, and a switchboard platoon. The light telephone platoon consisted of 5 squads of 7 men each, and the heavy platoon of 2 squads of 11 men each. The switchboard platoon had 2 squads with a total of 17 men. It was equipped with an old Hungarian switchboard with 30 extensions and a Soviet switchboard with 10 extensions. The battalion totaled 15 officers, 12 NCOs, and 360 EM, about 330 of whom were newly inducted on 23 October 1950.

12. The battalion was armed only with rifles and submachine guns. It was equipped with 8 Reba and Ceepel 3-ton trucks, 6 radio trucks and 5 to 6 Soviet jeeps.
13. From late October to late December 1950, the battalion conducted basic infantry training and then practiced line construction for two weeks in Balatonkenese (P 48/D 83). Returning from there in mid-January 1951, source saw several barracks buildings occupied by Soviet troops in Szekesfehervar, on the south side of the main road to Budapest. He saw Soviet sentries posted at four entrances of the barracks buildings.
14. Each company of the battalion had a party organization and an organization of the Democratic Youth Movement (Demokratikus Ifjusag Szovetseg) (DYMSZ). On 1 January 1951, the battalion introduced half-monthly payment, a private being paid 30 forints, a private first class 39 forints, a corporal 48 forints, a staff lance corporal 57 forints, a non-regular NCO 66 forints, a non-regular sergeant 55 forints, and a non-regular master sergeant 64 forints. Regular first sergeants were paid 730 forints per month, regular NCOs in command of platoons 810 forints, junior lieutenants 900 to 1,100 forints, and senior lieutenants 1,200 forints. Battalion commanders received additional pay of 600 forints per month. The payment of lieutenants was unknown to source.

Hungarian and Soviet Troop Units.

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- 25X1 17. On 18 February 1951, [ ] 3 or 4 Soviet soldiers at the railroad station in Gyoer (P 48/Y 44). [ ] Soviet troops were still stationed in Gyoer, but were given no town leave.



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